President

Candidate: Camille Hattwig

Questions:
1. As the representative of the UW Seattle student body, how are you going to remain cognizant of different student issues?

Given the potential for aspects of campus life to be remote next year, as well as the ever-intensifying effects of the pandemic, it is critical that I remain fully aware of all the issues every community of students are facing. One concrete way I will ensure awareness of student issues, particularly issues facing marginalized students, is to take advantage of the relationships I’ve cultivated with leaders in these communities and significant experience I have interfacing with leaders of marginalized student communities. My unique background in social justice advocacy through the JCC diversity commissions in ASUW, puts me in contact with countless campus leaders, and keeps me especially familiar with each entity involved in representing students’ communities. I am prepared to work with these entities and leaders again next year to understand the unique ways COVID is touching each community and how ASUW can help. To supplement this, I intend to implement quarterly town halls and frequent campus wide emails, where I will discuss the various issues I am working on with clear opportunity for student feedback. I promise to reach and listen to all students, regardless of their involvement or positionality on campus.

2. How do you plan on simultaneously welcoming a new class of students while also acknowledging the collective trauma of COVID-19?

This will be a very difficult balance to strike. Historically, welcoming new students to campus is a joyful and exciting time, both for student leaders as well as new students. But to approach fall quarter with this same attitude would frankly be inappropriate. Students are suffering, and that needs to be acknowledged. However, new students need to feel deeply celebrated and welcomed, understand that we are so excited to have them here, and know that celebrating them will be a part of collectively healing from the wounds of separation. Thus, my main approach will be to ensure new students find community as soon as they join UW. There is a special kind of solidarity all huskies are feeling right now within their student communities, so connecting new students to the support system of a welcoming community is my priority. Dawg Daze, HFS, RSOs and more have set up meaningful programming in years past that can serve as a blueprint for taking similar events online. I never want any student on campus, particularly new students, to feel alone or isolated. I will implement targeted marketing strategies, specific programming, and clear resources to ensure all new students are connected to community and each other as soon as they are here at UW.